



NEWS RELEASE

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FATAL MOTORCYCLE COLLISION 5100 BLOCK OF EAST 22ND STREET

On January 4, 2022, just after 12:30 p.m., officers from Operations Division Midtown were dispatched to the 5100 block of E. 22nd St. for a serious-injury collision involving two vehicles and a motorcycle. Tucson Fire personnel responded and began treating those involved, ultimately transporting the motorcycle rider to St. Joseph's Hospital with life-threatening injuries. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, the rider was pronounced deceased. He has been identified as 53-year-old **John Morales**. Next of kin was notified of his passing.

Traffic Detectives were contacted and responded to continue the investigation. Interviews conducted by detectives and officers determined that a grey 1999 Saturn S12 attempted to make a left turn from westbound 22nd St. into a private drive. At this time, Mr. Morales was traveling eastbound on 22nd St. on his red 2020 Honda CBR500 when the Saturn struck him. The collision caused the Saturn to strike a white 2011 Nissan Sentra that was waiting to make a right turn onto eastbound 22nd St.

A DUI Officer responded to the scene and determined that the driver of the Saturn was not impaired at the time of the collision. Witness statements and roadway evidence show that Mr. Morales was traveling at excessive speeds at the time of the collision.

This is an ongoing investigation, and no charges or citations have been issued. Failure to yield making a left-turn by the Saturn and excessive speed by Mr. Morales are the major contributing factors in the collision.

Traffic Fatalities Year to Date:

For 2020 – 0	For 2021 – 2
Pedestrian – 0	Pedestrian – 0
Bicycle – 0	Bicycle – 0
Motorcycle – 0	Motorcycle – 1
Vehicle - 0	Vehicle – 1

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